

## CLAIMS

1. An artificial nipple having a nipple body including a root portion, a teat portion with a feeding hole, and a narrow neck portion for making a connection between the root  
5 portion and the teat portion, comprising:

fiber nets (20) in the form of bands which are embedded within the thickness of the nipple body (10) such that they extend in a lengthwise direction (L) of the nipple body and are spaced apart from one another at a predetermined interval in a circumferential direction (A) of the nipple body, and

- 10 an air inflow groove (15) formed in a portion of a surface of the nipple body (10) which does not overlap with the fiber nets such that the air flow groove is connected to the feeding hole (12).

2. The nipple as claimed in claim 1, wherein a reinforcement thickening (17) is  
15 formed around the feeding hole (12) in an inner surface of the nipple body (10).

3. The nipple as claimed in claim 1, wherein as the nipple body (10) is viewed in a circular cross section thereof, an apex or summit of a valley of the air inflow groove (15) is offset toward one side by  $\Theta$  from the centerline (OL) of the nipple body.

20

4. The nipple as claimed in claim 1, wherein a reinforcement thickening (16) is formed at a portion of an inner surface of the nipple body (10) that is at the back of the air

inflow groove (15).